

Fwd
25

COUNTRY Czechoslovakia

CONFIDENTIAL

DATE DISTR. 2 OCT 50

SUBJECT Omnia National Enterprise in Slovakia

NO. OF PAGES 2

PLACE
ACQUIRED

NO. OF ENCLS.
(LISTED BELOW)

DATE OF INFO.

SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

25X1

THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS INFORMATION AFFECTING THE NATIONAL DEFENSE OF THE UNITED STATES WITHIN THE MEANING OF THE ESPIONAGE ACT 50 U.S.C. 31 AND 32, AS AMENDED. ITS TRANSMISSION OR THE REVELATION OF ITS CONTENTS IN ANY MANNER TO AN UNAUTHORIZED PERSON IS PROHIBITED BY LAW. REPRODUCTION OF THIS FORM IS PROHIBITED.

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

1. Omnia, as its name implies, is a catch-all for the nationalization program of Czechoslovakia. It directs all those plants which do not fit into any of the established categories, such as small heating and air conditioning factories in Bratislava, automobile repair shops (Tatra, Ford, Praga, Orava), small machine plants like the plants of Feitzelmayer and Cerny, and the Siroky light machinery repair plant, and other nondescript small factories and repair shops.
2. In 1946 the Kubra agricultural machinery plant at Trencin (P49/T50) was, with its subsidiary, the military aircraft and aircraft engine repair shop at Trencianske Diskupice (P49/T50), established as a main plant of the Omnia National Enterprise.* In 1948 the machine factory at Vyhne (Q49/Q43) and two small factories in Banska Bystrica (Q49/C76) were added to Omnia, Vyhne being made a main Omnia plant also.** During the 1948 Communist nationalization program, conditions became increasingly bad for Omnia for at that time even extremely small workshops were placed under its administration, despite the objections of the management.
3. Late in 1948, furthermore, Omnia's two main plants of Kubra and Vyhne were established as independent units, the two small Banska Bystrica plants were subordinated to Vyhne, and the Trencianske Diskupice repair shop was returned to the military. Yet, since the problem of disposing satisfactorily of all the small plants which are presently subject to Omnia management has not been solved, the Omnia National Enterprise persists.
4. The management, a carry-over from the pre-Communist period, has its headquarters in Bratislava (P49/X99) next door to the Hotel Carlton. The manager is Ing. Loebl; his deputy, Ing. Cermak. Loebl, who is not a Communist, will probably be replaced by the nephew of the Deputy Minister President, Siroky, a young and ardent Communist. However, not even Communists are anxious for the position of Omnia manager because of the varied nature of the plants under Omnia's jurisdiction and all the accompanying difficulties inherent in its incongruous structure.

CLASSIFICATION-~~SECRET~~

25X1

[illegible]

CONFIDENTIAL

Document No.

No Change In Class.

☐ **Declassified**

Class. Changed To: TS S (C)

Auth.: HB 70-2

DP82-00457R605800030001-7

25X1

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

-2-

5. Most of the machine shops are located in Bratislava, in all of which there is a variety of equipment. Some of the shops were very well equipped by industrious owners between 1945 and 1948, while others are completely antiquated both with regard to machinery and the plant buildings. There is a total of about 300 machines in all of these shops at present.
6. Omnia production consists largely of hot air heating equipment and air conditioning equipment, and of repairs on a variety of machines by the small machine shops. Such equipment includes agricultural steam engines which farmers use as a source of power for many farm tasks, so-called steam plows (parni pluh)*** and medical apparatus. None of these shops has any military significance.

25X1

25X1

*

**

Comment: The steam plow consists of two stanchions, placed one on either side of the field to be plowed, connected by a cable from which the plow is suspended. The plow is drawn across the field as the cable is operated by a steam-driven winch. The entire apparatus must be moved lengthwise down the field for each new furrow.

25X1

~~SECRET~~